

Geo Hardie

Editor
'Letters'
Glasgow Herald

320 Mos park Drive
Glasgow G52 1NP
18 2 83

427 0549

Sir

In anticipation of coming events likely to cause considerable argumentative discussion among all types of citizens it might be well worth while to consider the rise of Socialism, its decline and the inevitability of querulous rancour developing among all political parties when a united nation is required to overcome the declining standards of living for the world as a whole: I prefer in particular to a forthcoming General Election, a new Chairman for the Coal Board and Legislation for curtailing the use/abuse of Trade Union Power, (Depending on what role one may think the Trade Unions have to play in Society).

The real founder of Socialism in the early days was Keir Hardie, at 23 years of age already an agitator for worker organisations, a temperance worker and speaker and on occasion filled the local pulpit in the church. circa 1879 a huge demonstration of miners was held at Low Waters, Hamilton, and Hardie received a short sharp lesson in local politics when he introduced Alexander MacDonald, M.P. to the meeting and compared MacDonald's work on behalf of the miners as doing for them what 'Luther had done for the rise of Protestantism' and this where two-thirds of the miners were Irish Roman Catholics; Luther to them ~~was worse~~ was worse than low wages. Politicians tread more warily today. The next veteran in the Socialistic field was Robert Smillie a life-long friend of Keir Hardie and between them they consolidated the miner miners into an integrated community. The advent of the Co-operative Co-operative Stores into the mining communities took the miners out of the Company Stores. No more was this of paramount importance to the miners than during the 1926 strike (when the Co-operative Stores carried the miners through those heart-rending times and allowed payment of credit to start after work was resumed). In those days there was no Social Security or Family Allowances. Arthur Scargill and Michael McGahey have stepped into positions that were created by hard work, personal sacrifice and considerable self sacrifice.

sacrifice/

However their politics are regarded outside the miners' movement there can be little doubt that both these two leaders have in their own way tried to work in the interests of their own members. Keir Hardie was blacklisted in every coal pit in Scotland. No blacklist today. On 7th February 1893 he made his first speech in the House of Commons as an amendment to a Bill in the Queen's Speech referring to the vexed question of unemployment quoting the Trade Union returns to show that 1,300,000 workers were in receipt of out-of-work pay and bases on this ^{count} and the Poor Law statistics that 4,000,000 people were without the visible means of support. Hardie stated that he got more guidance in the works of Robert Burns for solving the problems of the under-privileged than in Karl Marx's Das Kapital. Hardie outlined his belief in Socialism in simple terms.

'I am a socialist because Socialism means fraternity founded on justice'. His aim was the building up of a Labour Party for the realisation of Socialism. 'Socialism makes war upon a system not a class.' He agreed that there was a conflict of interests between those who owned property and those who work for wages BUT it was in the true interests of Socialism to remove the cause which produced this antagonism. There should be no such thing as classes in a civilised society; to divide the nation into classes was anti-social and could never bring about a Socialistic State. The aim of International Socialism was to increase the strength of nations and to preserve peace through^{out} the world. If one could only believe our politicians today this is the aim of all Political Parties BUT the great dream of a Socialistic Utopia was killed after the last World War. The whole of Europe (except Spain) was in the hands of the Resistant Movements and crying out for a lead in the great humanitarian need for a Socialistic Way of living. The Soviet Union with its 20,000,000 dead would have been held under the sway of the Socialists to a realistic part of Euro-Asia Democracy in the true sense of the word. Unfortunately the Atlee Labour Government never gave the lead that that Resistant Movement was crying out for in their time of need. They and the Americans kept the Fascist Officials in office and the great utopian dream died.

died/

A Free Europe never got the lead it was looking for from a Labour Government. Russia retired behind its wounds and all the Fascists remained in official capacities running the countries as if the war had never touched them. NOW we have the spectacle of Klaus Barbie being winkled out and along with him goes the fact that this perpetrator of crimes against humanity was assisted by the very people who should have prosecuted him. And Russia today instead of being a Socialist State is totalitarian. So much so and inevitable that socialists are the main target for persecution and detention. The Great Dream of a Socialist Utopia destroyed in the backlash of reactionary forces. Today the Labour Party is examining its demise. In 1968 Barbara Castle tried to cushion the public against the Trade Unions power and again Ted Heath was toppled when his Industrial Relations act was along with 'In place of Strife' thrown out of office. The Labour Government with Dennis Healy and his 5% winter of discontent put paid to a Labour Government being elected in the near future. A Conservative Government could not be elected without a massive Trade Union members vote. A survey today rightly or wrongly would show a massive decline in the Labour vote due to Union strikes and the effect on the ordinary voter. ~~The Unions have the full backing of the Law,~~ The Unions have the full backing of the Law, and the early pioneers of Socialism with their policies of shorter working hours and elimination of poverty are now lost in the leap-frogging lead of the muscle-power unions to the detriment of ~~the powerless~~ those without muscle. Labour will need to get back to the 'Grass Roots' and show a united front if any credibility is to return to the movement

Yours faithfully

John E. Hunter

John E. Hunter

countries./

British Leyland is after all 95% State Capitalism. Capitalism is no longer a personal structure. In private firms if profits are not made there is no investment, no investment means closures, and in the end the community is the overall loser.

The British tax-payer was on a hiding to nothing as regards Leyland. All the threats and counter threats were so much hot air and the employees at Leyland's made this perfectly clear, they were on a winner.

Where there is such disarray and confusion among the Trade Unions there does not appear to be any apprehension among the Capitalists. There seems to be a real need to distinguish and enlighten the media in regards to Capitalism. Investing Capitalism, State Capitalism, Non-acceptable face of Capitalism or Worker-Labour Capitalism. Marx is still worth a re-think. In the opening quotes from Marx it could be worth considering who hold the ultimate future in their hands. The Skilled ~~Or~~ the and the Capitalists seem to be strange bed-fellows in the eyes of the enlightened proletariat.

Yours sincerely
John E Hunter.

John E Hunter

Letters
Glasgow Herald
195 Albion Street G1 1AP

320 Mosspark Drive
Glasgow G52 1NP
041 427 0549
14 3 89

NAZIFICATION

Dear Sir;

The 'Englishing (what a word) of Scottish Schools.
Education: Regarding the new Education Act as envisaged for schools it seems to be a reversal of the Balfour Education Act of 1902. This Act abolished the then School Boards and put Education into the hands and control of the Local Authorities and at ~~that~~ ^{that} time this was regarded as a very progressive step towards improving education. It is most interesting to note that this Act came into force when a very liberal Conservative was Prime Minister the First Earl, The Right Honourable Arthur James Balfour, statesman and writer, Foreign Secretary under Lloyd George (responsible for the declaration on Palestine) and Prime Minister 1902-1905. In 1918 the school leaving age was increased to 14 under Fisher's Education Act. Most of the students attending universities in England came from Public Schools but Scotland had the Carnegie Grant System under which half the fees were paid and the other half by the Local Authority. Because of this a great number of students attended the four Scottish Universities in comparison to England. When Michael Forsyth, M.P. introduces his Education Act in Scotland it will be interesting to note how Education has fared by 1992 compared to 1902. (Two Conservative Ministers Forsyth and Balfour), and what progress if any has been made.

When Hitler came to power in Germany the Trade Unions, the Press and newspapers, films and radio were all controlled and manipulated to suit the Right Wing Nazi Government. "The execution of the will of the Third Reich" was how the teachers had to teach and follow the Government's guide lines. The Schools were divided up; The Adolf Hitler Schools (12-18 years); Political Institutes of Education; and the Ordensburgs. Under the 'Opting Out' clause one can now visualise the schools in Scotland being divided up into Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, Right Wing and Left Wing denominations according to areas of population and Political boundaries. A recent Poll suggested that Scottish Parents wanted their children to wear School Uniforms. This is one of the areas where divisions might take place. It would be a pity if the Muslim Children had to give up their beautiful attire of silks and satins to give way to drab uniforms.

yours sincerely

John E. Hunter

John E. Hunter

I tried

what a waste

Actually the best answer I got was
from Ted Heath.

I sent a copy of enclosed to all affected readers
and Mutual Meritians & Refers

Referred to Home Office - standard reply

Govt. Ministers to whom I
have written

Messrs Ridley, Moore, Tebbit, Newton
Sumner,
M.P.' to whom I have written

Messrs. Healey, Forth, Pidd
Buchanan-Smith, Sillars
Gould, Ewan, Halseburn

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher P.M. (M.P.)

DRIVE
320 Mosspark Avenue
Mosspark
Glasgow G52 1NP.
041 427 5749

Dear Prime Minister

I have been in touch with the Scottish
Office and the Home Office (Messrs Newton Moore and Tebbit, ^{Ridley})
to try and find out how a Community Charge (Poll Tax) can
be collected from the quarter of a million (last count) illegal
immigrants. I have had no satisfactory answer and am now appealing
directly to you. There is a huge Asian Influx up here and the legal
immigrants would need to be protected.

My MAIN CONTENTION is that everybody should carry an Identity Card
Most people carry some form of Identification anyway at present.

In my small circle of friends (all pensioners and ex-service
men) none would have any objection to carrying an ID card.

No law abiding citizen could object and all the immigrants
and law-breakers would be caught out.

THIS ISSUE CAN NO LONGER BE IGNORED.

Yours sincerely

John E. Hunter

John E. Hunter

*Tongue
in
cheek*

objection to carry it out



Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street London SW1

Direct line 01-276 0976
Switchboard

Mr John E Hunter
320 Mossbank Drive
GLASGOW
G52 1NP

From Above Dept.

Your reference

Our reference 006/028308

Date 3 October 1989

*Reply to letter I sent to
D M*

Please note overleaf

Dear Mr Hunter,

Thank you for your recent letter July about the Government's reform of the present system of local government finance. I have been asked to reply.

The community charge will not be easy to evade either by failing to register or thereafter failing to pay. Community charge registration officers employed by the local authority have powers to require information from those living in the area, by canvass forms and other means. Where people fail to respond, or supply false information, registration officers have the powers to levy civil penalties. They will be able to check information supplied to them against the considerable body of local authority information held for other purposes. They will also be able to use a certain amount of incidental information supplied by the public. For instance, it should become routine for people moving house to notify the authority of this just as they do now with rates in order to end their liability for the charge. Registration officers will follow up such information by sending out requests to specific addresses for new residents to register. It should be noted that the community charge register will, like the electoral register, be published and open to scrutiny by local residents.

Once people have been registered there will be a system of payment by instalments, minimising arrears by encouraging prompt, frequent payment. Where people fail to pay, and fail to come to any agreement with their local authority, local authorities will have available to them powers of enforcement. In addition to the long established system of distraint on goods, they will be able to order deductions to be made from earnings. Husbands and wives will be jointly responsible for paying each other's community charge. The system for ensuring payment of the community charge is more modern, streamlined and effective than currently exists for the rates.

The Government considers that with this package of powers, and information from a variety of local sources, registration officers have available to them the means to ensure that few people successfully evade registration of the community charge. Where in exceptional circumstances individual registration of those living in a property is impractical - for instance, where a multi-occupied property is occupied by people who move on particularly frequently - special powers are available to deal with this. Where it is appropriate, registration officers will require the landlord or his representative to collect a contribution from each

[PTO]

941
2261

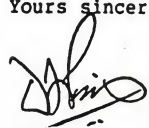
429 5/11

Register
non register

1 10/12

occupant on the authority's behalf, avoiding the need for individual registration.

Yours sincerely,



D J PRIOR
Finance, Local Taxation Division

Does the Govt. expect the huge influx of ~~the~~
Hong Kong citizens to pay a Poll Tax. ~~Get~~
Get re-housed when there is such a shortage
of Housing and their Children to claim
Child Benefit?

NAIVE: This information was accepted ~~as~~ ~~an~~
by the GOVT.

Note 1 In Strathclyde the extra Community
Charge Officers were mostly NAIRGO
Members who were paid so much a
night to carry out a census. It was
was no part of their job to query
a tenant on the assumption that the
the information was false. Where
people reply in a foreign language
interpretation can be difficult.
Enforcement? by whom Police or
Law officers?

●●●
Poll tax figures released

OVER 22 per cent of the city's adults have failed to pay
their poll tax.
And with summary notices having already been issued,
collection of the charge will now be placed in the hands of
sheriff officers.
In all, Strathclyde Regional Council have issued over
250,000 summary notices.
Almost half of those going out are to those who live in
the Glasgow area. *Definitely Roll only*

Note 2. Glasgow District Council would not allow the Registration dept to
use the Lending Library Computer to obtain household occupants.
What makes them think that this country will follow the NAZI
way by snooping on neighbours. How many snoopers will require
to be employed in this exercise?

Note 3. How many times can they arrest wages (with the Bank's consent?)
How many times can they sequestre household goods and who are
going to enforce entry into homes? Police or Soldiers?

Note 4. *Balderdash!* Too many unemployed and homeless to be caught up in
this exercise. The Hard-men, the criminals, the ones who could
not care less about being on a register and eligible to vote.
If ~~one quarter~~ one quarter of a million illegal immigrants
cant be traced for a Poll Tax or otherwise this paragraph
is a nonsense.

A FAR MORE HELPFUL METHOD WOULD HAVE BEEN THROUGH AN INCOME
TAX SYSTEM WHERE ALL THE COMPUTER MACHINERY WAS ALREADY IN
EXISTENCE.

Goodness knows what it will cost in postage etc, through all the
these notices going out.

By Strathclyde Computer has already broken down once with disastrous
consequences.

A PERSONAL VIEW but authentic. John E Hunter

W. E. Hunter

* A CABINET MINISTER STATED ON TV THAT HE WOULD CAP
ALL GRANTS FROM CENTRAL GOVT FROM OVER-SPEEDING
LABOUR COUNCILS (OVERALL THEY REPRESENT THE POVERTY
AREAS.

H. Gustav Klaus
Rückertstrasse 11
2800 Bremen 1
West Germany

9-2-1990

Dear Jim,

it was very good to meet and talk to you in the Ritz bar on that cold snowy December day. I have meanwhile received information from the British Council here about the upcoming Frankfurt literature Festival, as they call it, and see that you are billed with Bernard MacLaverty on 9 May. I hope to be able to make it to Frankfurt.

I enclose two things:

- a poem by Edward Hunter to be passed on to Tom Leonard with my good wishes. (Hunter is a forgotten author across whom I stumbled when researching on his brother-in-law James C. Welsh who was an immensely successful Scottish mining novelist in the 1920s. I shall write something about Hunter one day but need to know more about his life. At one time he emigrated with Welsh to New Zealand where they worked in the mines and were mighty agitators. Unfortunately not all his poems are as good as the Glasgow piece.)
- a dialect sketch by Teddy Ashton alias Allan Clarke whom I mentioned as the author of numerous stories and novels about Lancashire working-class life (1880s-1920s), the stories (publ. under the ps. Teddy Ashton) written ^{almost} entirely, not just the dialogues, in vernacular.

All the best

fe. Gustav



**Fachbereich 7
Kommunikation / Ästhetik**

Mr James Kelman
244 West Princes Street
Glasgow G4 9LP
Scotland
Großbritannien

45 Osnabrück, Postfach 4469
~~Katharinenstr. 24~~
Telefon (0541) 608-

28-2-1990

Dear Jim,

Thank you for your two letters in one. What a coincidence that you should have a copy of When Sleeps the Tide! The circumstances of your receiving it suggests that the militant spirit subterraneously lives on.

In case you have meanwhile got in touch with John Hunter, would you kindly give me his address? I am keen to talk to him before it is too late ('an elderly person', you say).

I have had second thoughts about Frankfurt, mainly because I realised that I would be away on my daughter's birthday for the second consecutive year. But since you intend to travel a bit after the event, would you like to come up here? We could put you (and your wife) up as long as one of you does not mind a mattress on the floor, and our somewhat cramped flat.

Unfortunately I am not in a position to organise a reading because I am (the letter-head notwithstanding) practically unemployed and thus don't have an apparatus on which to draw. And the Bremen University group of people that does arrange such things have already set their eyes on Bernard MacLaverty because his work figures on the grammar school syllabus.

Think about this. Perhaps the British Council would issue an air ticket with which you could fly Glasgow-Frankfurt but return Bremen-Glasgow (which would save one five-hour train journey).

In any case it was good to hear from you.

Yours ever

Ge. Gursow

Kuckertstrasse 11
2800 Bremen 1
421 500275

010.49 -

14 May 90

Dear Jim,

It was great having you here, but a pity your stay was so short. I hope you enjoyed the night at Pauls Kloster.

Julia was stunned, pleasantly of course, to find your letter. Her thanks herewith.

Also enclosed the questions concerning Edward Hunter. It is very good of you to pass them on to his son, and better still if you can send the tape.

Haven't had time yet to look at your 2 essays.

Yours ever

J. Gussow



Lieber Jim,
Vielen Dank für Deine
Gutscheine.

Julia



RL/MG

1st June 1990

Mr. John E. Hunter,
320 Mossspark Drive,
Glasgow,
G52 1NP

Dear Mr. Hunter,

"SUBURBAN ILLUMINATIONS"

It was very good of you to send us your suggestion for a TV programme.

I'm afraid, however, that it's just not the kind of material the ITV network is looking for from us at the present time, and I am therefore returning it to you with regrets and good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

ROBERT LOVE

Controller of Drama

Encs.

320 Mosdeford Dr
Glenview 652 100
427 0549
11-6-90

Dear Mr Kelman

re your phone call to me
I am enclosing some duplicated
material that might interest
you ??

I think we could cover some
interesting ground re historic
anecdotes etc.

What the Hell has Lally?
done to Elizabeth King?
Unfortunately I do not go
out at night much as I
have emphysema and my
wife is not too well.

I see you put in a 'stint' at
Pewabic. I am enclosing a
short story by my son Edward.
Yours in haste John E. Munkel

SOAP BOX
Glaswegian
40 ANDERSTON QUAY
GLASGOW

*This was
Letter*

320 Mossopark drive
Glasgow G52 1NP
041 427 0549
29 10 90

When the spectators stand on the terraces when Scottish teams are in action and render 'Flower of Scotland' do they realise that it was the Flower of Scotland that defeated the English army at Bannockburn 1314. And it was the Flower of Scotland that were defeated by the English at the battle of ~~Eden~~ Flodden 1513 when over 10,000 Scots were slain. The refrain from the song the Bonny Banks Of Loch Lomond 'You'll tak the high road and I'll tak the low road ~~was~~ supposed to be the spirits of the dead from Flodden taking the low road back to Scotland.

Carlisle?

John E. Hunter

John E. Hunter

Dear Editor.

Excuse these old rheumy fingers.

*P.S.
Could be
added*

*The Scots have fought for independence of many
countries in the world BUT never their own.
Now they may have to fight for maintaining the
Feudal system of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.
Neither democracies*

Page 4 THE GLASWEGIAN, Week Ending Saturday 3rd November 1990

Issue 82

SOAP BOX

WONDER if readers know the background to Roy Williamson's Flower of Scotland. The Flowers of Scotland were defeated at Flodden in 1513 when over 10,000 Scots were slain. The song "You'll tak the high road and I'll tak the low," refers to the spirits of the dead from Flodden taking the low road home.

John E Hunter, Mossopark Drive G52 ROY WILLIAMSON



*This is what
was printed*

I complained

*Correction
Issue 83*

SOAP BOX

WHEN the spectators stand on the terracing while Scottish teams are in action they love to render O' Flower of Scotland.

I wonder if they realise that it was the flowers of Scotland who defeated the English army at Bannockburn in 1314.

John Hunter, Mossopark Drive.

Correction

Fight for the Six

By ANGELA DEWAR

A MASSIVE petition calling for the release of the Birmingham Six has been presented to the Scottish Office by author James Kelman.

The move comes in the same week as the Director of Public Prosecutions announced that three judges will hold a preliminary hearing next week for the prisoners.

The petition is the latest measure to be taken by the Glasgow committee set up to campaign for the freedom of the Six, recently highlighted in The Glaswegian.

Fiona Forsyth of the Glasgow committee said: "We also presented

an open letter to Ian Lang from Hugh Callaghan, one of the Six.

"In it he asks the Secretary of State to consider the level of support for the men in Scotland and to press the Home Office for an early end to their imprisonment."

At the same time as the petition and letter were handed over in Edinburgh supporters passed on hundreds of Christmas cards to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Each card contained a message urging the Government to secure the release of the six Irishmen before Christmas.

320 Monmouth St - (1)
Glasgow G5 2 1NP
14-1-91

4270549

Self War - War for
Old Broom &
Hornament - Sufferer

My wife and I are now trying to get up to George's
on a Thursday - an out in for her and my club for me
Hello Jim
Very pleased to receive your letter and post always
considering how busy you are - good work - I am enclosing
some more material which might interest you - *Spencer you right!*
Cannot use life write due to rheumatoid clasp finger.
Unfortunately my back is still not come to terms with the
ailments & still suffer great pain. Doctors and consultants
can't fault cause (x-ray body scan etc) Alway
live in hope when we see so many really disabled people
struggling there a book 'Lochley' by Wm McIlvanney -
very reminiscent of Douglas Watt's village. The greenish
has an amazing vocabulary - I usually have a drink in
the Grove Monday (contemporary) - I go to the 'griffin' Wed &
Friday for the meal - I still manage up to the 'Garden'
on a Thursday - Alas how has left now
YOUR BRANDY IS GOOD
I think it was the Czech writer Arthur Koestler who said
'the & some genius (man) has an inherent syndrome
to eventually kill himself off. (The self was might do it).
[PTO]

I have killed enough.

Both my sons Eddie & George
want to read this book
You are on that war, given to a
good education

I have lost the urge to write and read out
have had quite a few good ideas - I think.

Regarding 'fally' what an object of ridicule
to affect the word socialist to him.

Next Kinnaird - also takes the Labour Vote but
granted -

Set an invitation to 'A. J. P. among us'

But unfortunately could not go

Understand Freddie got the 'heave-o' calling of certain
conrade 'A treacherous bastard! ?

Your age Elphinstone deserves a better fate.

Jack

Have managed to read good 3 chapters
See 'Scots' free press' - Good!

So much could be talked about - but
your ^{group} great is essential to this 'DUST BOWL'
City - Culture my foot! - roadwork have made
uninhabitable - scaffolding all over - where does
the money come from?

By the way what is the name of your girlfriend?

Can't think of any more info. meantime.

Hope you had a good and rewarding trip in Canada.

'Avis + Coghill' Printers were allowed compensation from other shops to work over time on the diary - approx 6 weeks which allowed a comp. staff (unemployed) to be able to stay on Bureau income as means but was to the fore - latterly)

Jack

John & Hunter

Enclosed Elaine C Smith etc shows pigotry still presents (deplorable).

Extra: met a chaffie (old) got on the Chat - started off Blunt-type Fair Colley. in all the names that used to be. Quite a story.

Drifted on to the Islands: He said he came originally from North Ronaldsay - His niece Christine Mini wrote for the "Scot's man" and she was doing a history: when I told him my granmā (Cutt) was a Mini originally from N. Ronaldsay - it took off.

He said that uncle had retired from the Bakery in Sunday - See Page?

of Confederate drums.

The problem with hate is that it is often not based on fact, and, regrettably, Elaine C. Smith's pet hate falls into this category.

Many members of the Orange Order participate in party politics, trade unions, and community organisations where they march for jobs, for the Health Service, and against world injustice and poverty.

The lodge looks after the welfare of its own members in Scotland who are in need, but we also do a great deal for others who are less fortunate.

We have given many chairmobiles to those who are disabled. One example is our members in Govan, who have given chairmobiles to the value of £90,000 over the last few years.

These are given irrespective of the person's creed or colour.

Our lodges have provided money for many cot monitors for various hospitals, the latest being £200 to Bellshill Maternity. Cot Death Fund from the young people of our Motherwell District Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland has provided money for brothers and sisters in Togo, West Africa, and has set aside a sum to be channelled through the Grand Lodge of Ghana for churches or relief agencies there.

The current project for our youth is to raise a considerable sum of money for Save the Children Fund as part of our celebrations marking the 300th anniversary of the Glorious Revolution.

some have even participated in May Day parades.

On the day when Elaine Smith ran in the marathon in Glasgow, she stated: "Only hundreds turned up to sing or march about hate, but thousands turn out to help the starving in Africa."

What the members of the Orange Order were doing was parading to services of worship in the city.

Thousands of Orange men and women were involved. The bands were playing well-known hymn tunes. The only singing indulged in by member of the Order was in well known psalms and gospel hymns at the church services.

It is apparent that she did not approach the subject from a religious standpoint, but from the political ideology that working class people should concentrate their energies into the current strategies of class warfare.

There is nothing abnormal about this standpoint but, when carried too far, it can abuse the democratic rights of those who do not conform to its viewpoint.

The Stalinist extremes of that ideology filled graves and gulags with religious dissidents and were a mirror of the fire of Nazism that blazed in Europe.

The Orange Order takes its membership from those of the Reformed Tradition. It stands for civil and religious liberty. These are our rights and we make no apology for them.

DAVID BRYCE, Grand Secretary, Grand Orange Lodge of Scotland

some days. But is Freemasonry the only Masonry in Scotland?

That the present (lady) Lord Provost of Glasgow is the fifth consecutive Roman Catholic in the post clearly shows that some form of Masonry is operating in Glasgow District Council, and it isn't Freemasonry. I think a good case could be made out for calling it "Romanmasonry". And doesn't the fact that the Scottish public is so unaware of this run of Roman Catholic Lord Provosts show how powerful this form of Masonry is in the Scottish media, both press and TV?

It is my experience that most Church of Scotland clergymen are totally indifferent to Roman Catholic municipal power in Scotland's leading city, commercially and numerically. (Changed days from the days when there were few empty pews.) I am sure that could not have happened in London. I am quite sure that Anglicans there, clergy and laity, would never have stood for that. Can any reader imagine London having five consecutive Roman Catholic Lord

SEND IT TO SUE ; Sunday Mail.

I have just read the Sunday Mail's article on Elspeth King (a young lady for whom I have a great admiration especially as regards her courage in facing up to bureaucratic arrogance re the recent promotion fiasco from George Square) and would take the 'Sunday Mail' to task regarding the so-called Davy Ballads being attributed to Burns. Researchers into this publication were of the opinion that most were of Irish and Welsh origins and foreign to Burns' vocabulary *of Scottish origin*. There has now been a move by some Academics to compile a dictionary/cum glossary of Scots words partnered with the English equivalents. Burns more than any one preserved the Scots language. But for Burns Scottish poetry would have been lost and most Scots songs would certainly have disappeared.

A country that has lost its literature can hardly survive. ~~Scotland~~ Scotland probably the only country in the world that does not teach its own language in its schools. I hope when these Academics produced their volume on the Scots language that we will see a Chair in Glasgow University giving a degree in Scottish language.

What could be more prophetic utterance than Burns' Ode to a House
Still thou art blessed, compar'd wi' me!

The present only touches thee:

But, oeh! I backward cast my e'e

On prospects drear!

An' forward, tho' I cannot see

I guess an' fear.

Written over 200 years ago ; will the Gulf be the final
scenario?

John E Hunter

John E Hunter

24 Nov 1991

my sister reckoned she knew all
modern author - unfortunately
I cannot get round to reading
much. Health a bit off
I'll be 80 yrs in June -

aye your
Jack

Glad to see your group keeps
up the pressure.

Editor
Letters
Glasgow Herald

Not Printed
320 Mossbank Drive
Glasgow G 52 1NP
041 427 0549
14 3 91

Dear Sir

George Bush has been very magnanimous in his statement that his recent fight was against the viscious and despotic ruler of Iraq and not the people of the country. Baghdad like many other Muslim cities have very strict laws against stealing and law-breaking. As they are not allowed to drink alcohol there are no drink-related cases of crime. Very few if any have Bank accounts or own private houses. Breakins in these premises are unheard of.

Now have a look at George Bush, a Christian stalwart and one of his major cities, i.e. New York. In any week over thirty people are

murdered in New York that is perhaps more personnel than the allies lost in the 100 days war. Crime statistics have not varied much

over the years. The New York Police reported over 500,000 incidents last year. Murders, rapes, assaults, breakins, etc. and that only represents the reported felonies. Jails are bursting at the seams.

There were over 1,500 murders in New York in 1986. The crime rate has grown to unacceptable figures and the citizens of New York have created a new industry : The Protection of Property, from full time guards to razor-wire protection units. It is a feature of American awareness of this problem that tourists are advised as to what can happen walking in parks after dark; locking cars in certain districts are recommended. No other city in Europe has this enormous statistics of felonies.

President Bush has staked his continued popularity on solving the crime rate in America. The Middle East situation will be resolved between the Muslim States and the Christian Countries. After all it was the Jews and their prophets of Israel that gave the Christian religion to the Western World. As Walter Scott's Wamba said

'PAX VOBISCUM.'

Yours sincerely

John E Hunter

Please excuse rheumatiky fingers.

Editor
You Said It
Daily Record

*not
printed*

320 Mossspark Drive
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Dear Sir,

Now that John Major has given the Scots soldiers a good account of themselves during the Gulf War in their successful campaign to liberate a Feudal State maybe the same gallant lads will now attempt to fight for the independence of their own country (through the Ballot Box). Scottish soldiers make up a *h* good percentage of the British Army (John Majors words) but in all wars percentage-wise the Scots have conceded more fatalities than the English or Welsh. Scots have fought for *h* the independence of many countries except their own. Over the past 200 years Scotland has been subjugated to relentless pressure from England and America of imposing their form of culture upon Scotland. Scotland probably the only country in the world that does not teach its own language in its schools. The Poll Tax is a typical example of this type of imposition and it is only a matter of time until Scottish Schools are Anglisised

Yours sincerely

John E Hunter

John E Hunter

Editor

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'Hands Off Hampden'. I wonder if the advocates of retaining Hampden as an International Stadium live in that area. It is a very residential area, shops in the Mount Florida area and the disruption during a match here gives the residents a lot to put up ^{with} ~~for~~, hassle, noise and general disruption to the surrounding areas. Trying to get into the city from any of the surrounding places is hopeless. Burnside, Rutherglen, Polmadie and Mount Florida and Kings Park are typical 'no go' areas for people not interested in Football. Access to Hampden is very limited and the parking facilities for cars and buses boggles the mind. When one considers the proposals for transport to Glasgow Airport - Buses, trains and various suggestions to relieve congestion throughout the week a one day match at Hampden in comparison should give cause for serious thought. A new International Stadium should be well thought out as regards to traffic, parking facilities and above all a ~~consideration~~ consideration of the people in the chosen area. *Also 2 Hospitals*

Yours sincerely

John E. Hunter

Victoria S. General

Gray Times

NOT
Postcard

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Dear Editor,

Probably the correspondence re Poll Tax has reached ~~adum infinitum ad nausiam~~. Bear with me as what I have to say in my opinion has not been sufficiently stressed.

The MP's Michael Forsyth and Ian Lang must be working on the assumption that ~~all~~ all people due paying the Poll Tax live in comfortable and well financed houses. The Poll Tax would be seen to be acceptable if everyone accountable were to pay it BUT. On the last count (Government figures) there are over 1-million illegal immigrants in the country. Equal Poll Tax loss. More people in jail than ever before. Refer to Strageways and other jail riots no way are the 'hard men' paying this. In Glasgow counting the Tenements and multi-storey flats and other houses where name plates have been removed to avoid Poll Tax letters being delivered. How many times can a house's furniture be sold under a Sheriff's warrant? I have written up to various Cabinet Ministers on this matter but all I received was the Home Office leaflet describing how it was impossible for anyone to avoid payment as the Law was there to enforce collection. Ted Heath was the only MP who gave me a courteous and explanatory reply, his words: he objected to the tax on the grounds that it did not take in a person's ability to pay!

Yours sincerely

John E Hunter.

P.S. How is the forthcoming census going to be carried out?

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9-4-91

Heb Jno!

You might find the enclosed
interesting. I have just finished
reading *HOT AT THE GYRO-*
Wide Runner (Boop) exactly as I
knew the junkies - syndicate on the
Far system - the one day man etc
marvellous !!!

Finger not up to much now - wife
still not too good - still managing
the Gordon Highlands on a Thursday
Only about 1/5 of us turning up.

Hope to see you one of these days
for a crack - I know you must
be busy - Good hunting

Jack